CAMP WHITE
GRENADE II

"PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE"

VOL. 2 NO. 1 NEWSLETTER OF THE CAMP WHITE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION MARCH 1996

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MEL COTTON

It is with great pride that I report to you our continued progress during the past three months. Our Corporate Status has now been up-graded by the IRS as a non-profit "TAX EXEMPT", Public Benefit Corporation. This now allows our supporters the option of tax deductions on donated items and monetary gifts. I am delighted at the response from our appeal for items of memorabilia to add to our collections department.

CWHA display items do not set in storage and collect dust, but are being displayed to the public.

As a result of our very successful showing on Veteran's day at the Talent Oregon Historical Society, we were asked to repeat our display at the Sams Valley Elementary School just North of White City. This school is located in what was the North West corner of the Camp White training ranges. The display was set up in the school gymnasium for Presidents Day in correlation with their World War II American History studies.

The CWHA was joined by the Oregon National Guard historic flag display, and the Southern Oregon Military Vehicle Collector's Club with WWII memorabilia and vehicle displays.

Over 340 children and 20 school staff members viewed the displays. Media coverage by local newspaper (see article in this newsletter) and television covered the event.

Many CWHA members were on hand to describe display items and answer questions from the children. Col. Chris Hald (Ret), CWHA board member, gave a short talk to each class of children as they came into the gym for the display. At the end of his talk he would get the children to participate in the 91ST Division Battle Cry "Powder River! Let 'er buck". The kids got a big kick out of it and had a great time.

Your donated items and support are what make this all possible. This allows us to perpetuate the history of WWII and the awareness of the sacrifices made to defend and to insure the freedoms these young citizens enjoy today.

A new addition to our display this year will be a section devoted to the efforts made on the "home front" to support the troops overseas; the Bond sales, women in the ship yards, volunteers rolling bandages for the Red Cross etc.

I would like to welcome the constant flow of new members into our ranks. I assure you and all members that your nine member Board of Trustees and all committees are activity working hard in your interest.

On behalf of your Officers and Board, please accept our sincere appreciation for the strong support that you, our members, are providing the Camp White Historical Assoc. in "Preserving The Past For The Future".

CARTOON FROM "ON THE WAY!"
THE STORY OF THE 91ST DIVISION ARTILLERY
BY ROY L. MOSKOP

I ain't got time for prisoners—Ain't you heard there's a war on?

EDITOR'S NOTE

I would like to update our members to the goals of the Camp White Historical Association. That is to recognize all military units and civilian organizations which trained, built, and worked at Camp White.

The Camp White Historical Association By-Laws read as follows on it's purpose.

ARTICLE II
PURPOSE

SECTION 1.

THE OBJECT AND PURPOSE OF THIS ORGANIZATION SHALL BE TO RECOGNIZE AND TO PROMOTE THE PRESERVATION OF, AND THE CONTINUED INTEREST IN, THE HISTORY OF THE FORMER UNITED STATES ARMY BASE KNOWN AS CAMP WHITE ESTABLISHED DURING WORLD WAR II, (1942) AND NOW LOCATED IN THE AREA KNOWN AS WHITE CITY, OREGON.

THIS RECOGNITION SHALL EXTEND TO ALL MILITARY UNITS THAT SERVED ON THE BASE, THE PERSONNEL, BOTH MILITARY AND CIVILIAN, THAT HELPED TO CONSTRUCT THE CANTONMENT, AND TO THOSE INDIVIDUAL MILITARY PERSONNEL THAT TRAINED THERE TO LEARN AND PERFECT, THEIR MILITARY SKILLS.

THE FORM OF RECOGNITION WILL BE:

1. THE ERECTION OF VARIOUS MONUMENTS AND MARKERS THAT WILL IDENTIFY NOTABLE POINTS ON THE FORMER CANTONMENT AREA.

2. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MUSEUM TO HOUSE THE ARTIFACTS, ARCHIVES, AND LIBRARIES, DONATED TO THE ASSOCIATION BY VARIOUS INTERESTED DONORS.

3. SUCH OTHER PROJECTS AS MAY BE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FROM TIME TO TIME THAT CONFORM TO THE OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSE OF THIS ASSOCIATION.

SECTION 2.

ADDITIONAL OBJECTIVES ARE TO FOSTER COOPERATIVE ACTION AMONG THE CITIZENS OF JACKSON COUNTY, AND ALL OTHER PERSONS THAT PERSONALLY SERVED , OR WERE EMPLOYED ON THE BASE, DURING WORLD WAR II, OR, THAT BECAUSE OF FAMILY OR FOR OTHER HISTORICAL INTEREST WISH TO HELP THE FURTHERANCE OF THE FOREGOING PURPOSE.
AND, TO GENERALLY CARRY ON AND CONDUCT THE FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES OF AN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION THAT ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE LAWS OF OREGON, SPECIFICALLY ORS 358.015-358.200.

SECTION 3.

THE ASSOCIATION SHALL BE A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION OPERATING FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT OF ITS MEMBERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC AS A WHOLE. IT SHALL OPERATE UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF OREGON, AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, IN A MANNER THAT QUALIFIES IT AS A TAX EXEMPT CORPORATION.

In keeping with our mission, as stated in our By-Laws above, our first project is erecting a monument on the site of Camp White. This monument, as shown in the CWHA Newsletter Vol. 1 No. 2 Page 2, shows the proposed plans of a six sided concrete structure, each side having a plaque recognizing the organizations that were connected in the building, operating, and training on this camp. Both Army Divisions that trained at Camp White, the 91ST & 96TH, will each have a plaque, as well as a plaque each for the Camp White Post Troops(support sections), the civilian workers that built and worked at the camp, the 5 branches of the Armed Forces of WW II, and the Veterans Administration.

There is also an "existing" monument on the site of the 91st Division Headquarters that has been vandalized and neglected that, with the help of the White City Improvement Association, we will assist in preserving. This ia a piece of Camp White history that we can not ignore. It was part of the camp and was erected when Camp White was activated in August-September 1942.

In keeping with our By-Laws, we are trying to accumulate Camp White memorabilia that we will display at different functions and will eventually be on permanent display in the CWHA museum when funding will allow it's construction. We are in need of any Camp White and World War II memorabilia, (91st, 96th Division and Post Troops, General Hospital, civilian) uniforms and gear publications, photos, anything that will help us put together a living history of Camp White.

MAIL TRIBUNE
FEBRUARY 21, 1996

Artifacts enhance history lessons

Kids learn about World War II through the tools used by G.I.s

By PEGGYANN HUTCHINSON
of the Mail Tribune

Students at Sams Valley Elementary Tuesday discovered that American GIs during World War II liked chocolate, carried some heavy equipment, and used some fascinating "stuff."

While all the students at the school visited the displays in the gymnasium, those in Joan Gugliotta's fourth and fifth grades had more than a passing interest in them.

Gugliotta's students play the roles of characters in history as they move from colonial days to current events in their U.S. history class studies.

By the end of the two-year program, "they will have covered several generations of the same family," she explains.

Ticking off the progression of the "family," Gugliotta explains it starts with the family's arrival in America, life as settlers, arguments about taxes and government, and on into the present day.

"We do cover major events," Gugliotta continues. The section that prompted the exhibit pertains to what America did in its wars.

The students came to her last year about "living World War II" and Gugliotta had to figure out how to do that.

After visiting the Armistice Day display in Talent last fall she contacted the Southern Oregon Military Vehicle Collectors Club, the Camp White Historical Association and the National Guard.

Tuesday's exhibits were the result, and students learned not only what happens when the pin in a hand grenade is pulled, but not to touch any shells they might discover in their area.

Occasionally shells are found in Sams Valley because it was used as a firing range during World War II.

Mark the area near the shell, then tell someone in authority, Tustin Ellison, World War II veteran, stressed. He was manning the display of grenades, field telephones, rifles, bayonets, and similar items.

The pin in a grenade is pulled out by a finger, Ellison explains. "The movies always show pulling it with your teeth. No way," he continues. "Do that very often and you won't have any teeth."

Combat cameras attracted both boys and girls. One girl discovered chocolate in the K-rations. And the array of colorful shoulder insignias fascinated several students.

Uniforms also came in for a share of the attention.

"If I drop this grenade, will it explode?" a student asked at another display.

"You don't know that, do you?" the veterans manning the booth told him, "so don't assume it won't."

A student thought the metal-covered Bible a good idea because it likely would be carried in a pocket over the heart.

And the collection of military vehicles outside attracted much attention.

Displays of Camp White — built on the former site of Beagle — were studied and the 200-year-old set of American flags brought comments. The flags belong to the National Guard, and an officer explained what they represented during the more than 200-year history of the United States.

During the first trip through the exhibit at 8:45 a.m., Gugliotta's students didn't have enough time.

"They were really excited," she says as she hurries to the classroom late in the morning. "They want to come back."

They got their chance.

At the close of the exhibit at 2 p.m., Gugliotta's classes returned for a second look.

The Origin of "Taps"

Reprinted by permission of The Scottish Rite Journal

In 1862, during the Civil War, Union Army Capt. Robert Ellicombe was with his men near Harrison's Landing in Virginia. On the other side of this narrow strip of land was the Confederate Army.

During the night, Capt. Ellicombe heard the moan of a soldier who lay mortally wounded on the field. Not knowing if he was a Union or Confederate soldier, the captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention.

Crawling on his stomach through the gun fire, Ellicombe reached the soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment. When Ellicombe reached his own lines, he discovered the soldier was a Confederate, and he was dead.

The captain lit a lantern then suddenly went numb with shock. In the dim light he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son! The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, he had enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The following morning, the heartbroken father asked that his son be given a full military burial despite his enemy status. His request was partially granted — a funeral dirge by Army band members was denied. Out of respect for the father he was allowed one musician. The captain chose a bugler. Ellicombe asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of his son's uniform.

This wish was granted. That music was the haunting bugle melody we now know as "Taps," used at all military funerals.

This article was found in Doug Storer's Encyclopedia of Amazing But True Facts, *published by Signet and reprinted in the Scottish Rite Journal.*

This newspaper article and CWHA photo was listed on Sunday February 4, 1996, in the Medford Mail Tribune newspaper.

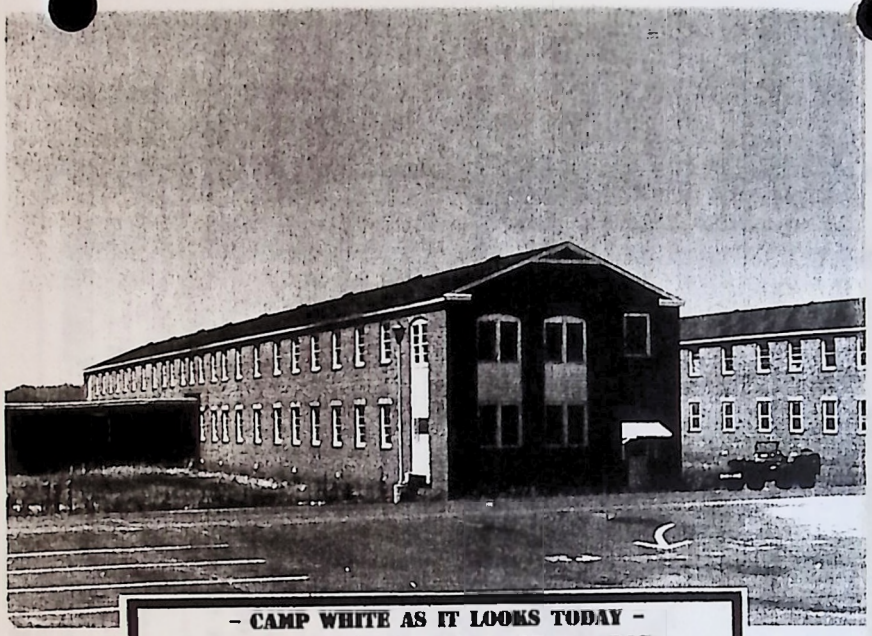
In reference to this article and photo of the newly married couple pictured in the jeep at Camp White, 1942, it brought several responses from local readers. It brought together the Bride, Nina Hess Bell, of Lone Grove Oklahoma, and her lost friend of 50 years a resident of Ashland Oregon. Two other local residents made separate inquiries via telephone to Jim Bell having mutual acquaintances in Lone Grove. A happy occasion to all parties separated by many years and a couple thousand miles.

Mel Cotton

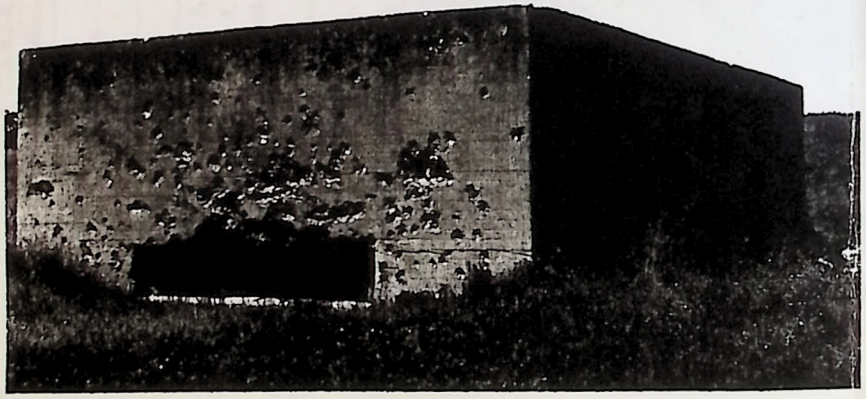
Photo from Camp White Historical Association

An old wedding tradition

When couples got married at Camp White during World War II, they went on a traditional Jeep ride around the grounds. The Camp White Historical Association recently came across this photo of Sgt. Raymond V. Carroll escorts Jim Bell and Nina M. Hess just after they were married on March 7, 1943. Theirs was the first full military wedding to be held in the 363 Chapel at the camp. Sgt. Bell was in training at Camp White and Hess, of Ashland, was a Grants Pass school teacher. The couple is still married today and lives in Lone Grove, Okla. The Camp White Historical Association is interested in hearing from others with memories of the World War II era there. Contact Mel Cotton at 899-8842.



– CAMP WHITE AS IT LOOKS TODAY –
ABOVE – BRICK BUILDINGS OF THE BASE HOSPITAL ARE STILL IN USE BY THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION.
BELOW – ONE OF THE "PILL BOXES" STILL SHOWS THE POT MARKS OF SMALL ARMS FIRE FROM TRAINING DAYS AT CAMP WHITE
(26 OF THESE BUNKERS STILL STAND ON THE SITE OF THE ORIGINAL BEAGLE FIRING RANGE)



This article was placed in the Boston Globe newspaper, "letters to the editor". 8/19/95

Revisionists turned celebration into nightmare

I am one World War II combat veteran who was glad when the events of the 50th anniversary were over. What should have been a patriotic celebration of victory over a determined and cruel enemy and appreciation for our war dead has been turned into a nightmare of controversy by over-educated apologists and revisionists with axes to grind and books to sell.

Unfortunately for history, the revisionists will likely have the last word. A recent Globe book review put it in words to the effect that revisionist thinking will have to wait until the World War II generation has passed on to gain general acceptance (in other words, until the eyewitnesses have died.)

By the time the 100th anniversary comes around, the revisionists will probably claim that the United states started the war by firing on Japanese planes flying over Pearl Harbor on a goodwill mission.

ROBERT F. DUNNING
Reading

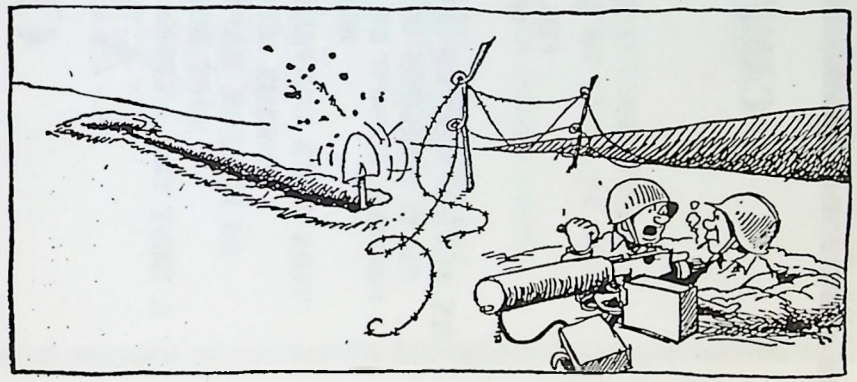
• • •

The Globe welcomes correspondence from readers. Please include your name, address and daytime telephone number. Letters should be 200 words or less; all are subject to condensation.

Letters sent by US mail should be signed.

Mail address: Letters to the Editor, The Boston Globe, Boston MA 02107-2378.

The Internet address:
letter@globe.com



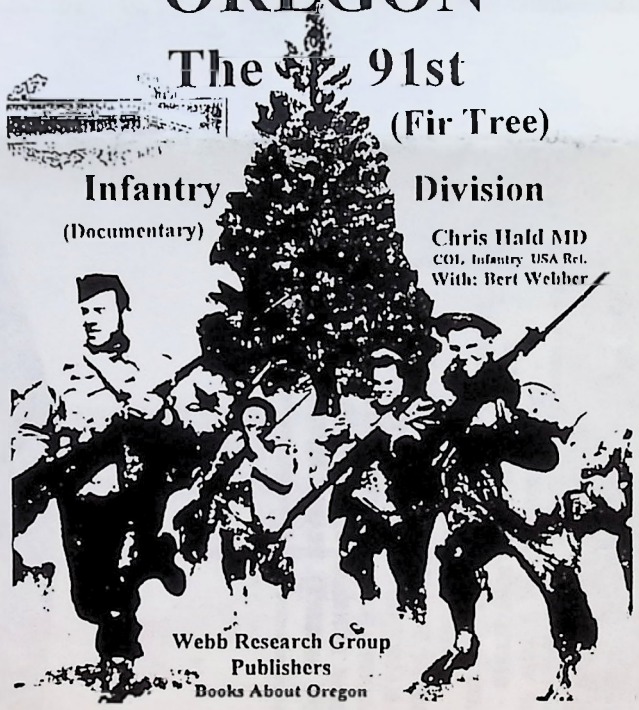
"Here comes Hagood to butt in on th' conversation."

CAMP WHITE OREGON

THE 91ST
(FIR TREE)
INFANTRY DIVISION
BY CHRIS HALD MD
COL. INFANTRY USA RET.
WITH: BERT WEBBER

AN ACTION PACKED ILLUSTRATED AND HISTORICAL NARRATIVE OF THE RIGORS OF TRAINING AT CAMP WHITE OREGON
A PERSONAL ACCOUNT BY CHRIS HALD THEN A NEW CAPT. IN THE NEWLY REACTIVATED 91ST DIVISION

THIS BOOK CONTAINS RARE, HISTORIC AND CONTEMPORARY PHOTOS MANY NEVER BEFORE PUBLISHED.
90 PHOTOS, MAPS, AND ILLUSTRATIONS - 126 PAGES
SOFT BOUND - 5 1/2 X 8 1/2 INCHES
A MUST FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN CAMP WHITE HISTORY.



$10.00 PER COPY PLUS $2.00 SHIPPING/ HANDLING AVAILABLE FROM:
CAMP WHITE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 2373, WHITE CITY, OREGON 97503
PHONE: (503) 773-3487

SEND TO:
NAME:_____
ADDRESS:_____
CITY/STATE:_____ **ZIP**_____
PHONE:_____

CAMP WHITE
CITY ON THE AGATE DESERT
BY GEORGE KRAMER

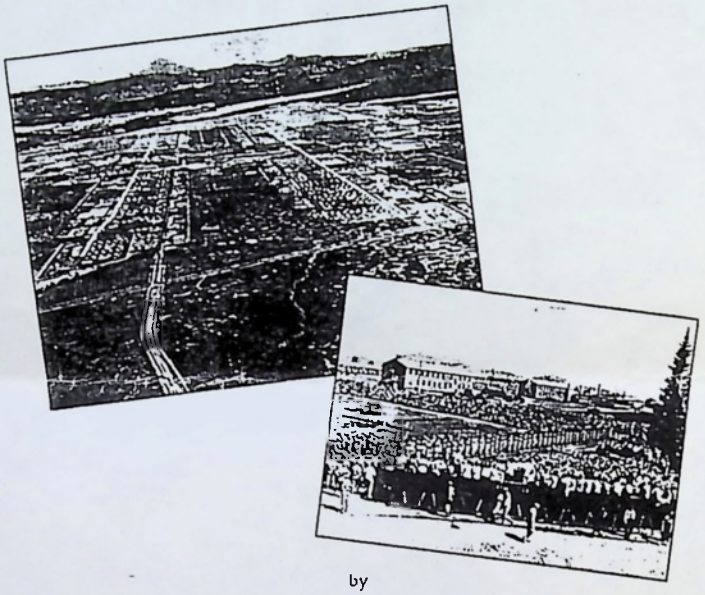
AN ILLUSTRATED, HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF CAMP WHITE OREGON AND THE LIVES OF THE MEN AND WOMEN INVOLVED.

OVER 85 PHOTOS, MAPS, AND ILLUSTRATIONS - 126 PAGES SOFT BOUND - 8 1/2 X 11 INCHES.

THIS BOOK WAS PUBLISHED IN 1992 ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CAMP WHITE. A MUST FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN CAMP WHITE HISTORY.

CAMP WHITE

City in the Agate Desert



by

George Kramer

$10.00 PER COPY PLUS $2.00 SHIPPING/ HANDLING AVAILABLE FROM:
CAMP WHITE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 2373, WHITE CITY, OREGON 97503
PHONE: (503) 773-3487

==========

PLEASE SEND ____ COPIES OF "CAMP WHITE: CITY ON THE AGATE DESERT." I HAVE ENCLOSED CHECK OR MONEY ORDER $_____ IN PAYMENT.

SEND TO:
NAME:_____
ADDRESS:_____
CITY/STATE:_____**ZIP**_____
PHONE:_____

CAMP WHITE

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

P. O. BOX 2373, WHITE CITY, OREGON 97503

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME_____

STREET_____

CITY_____

STATE_____ZIP_____PHONE_____

MEMBERSHIP STATUS: ( ) REGULAR ( ) PATRON ( ) CONTRIBUTOR
$12.00 $25.00 $50.00

DONATIONS:_____ MEMORIAL DONATIONS:_____

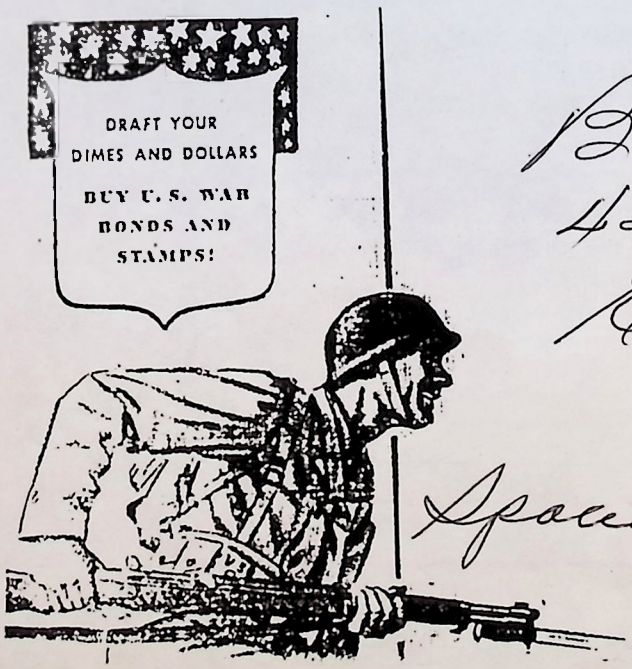
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CAMP WHITE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
P. O. BOX 2373
WHITE CITY, OR 97503

CAMP WHITE
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 2373, WHITE CITY, OREGON 97503

* * * * * * * *

JACKSONVILLE, OR
MAR 2
PM
1996
97520

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK
GOLDDISCOVERED 1851
USA 32



Barbara Hegne
431 Stevens Rd
Eagle Point, Oregon
97524

Space 9 ? 9